GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4409
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Look East Policy and NER
Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Look East Policy/Agenda for the North Eastern Region;
(b) the details of funds allocated and the number of projects under the said policy till date; and
(c) the target set for future in this regard?

Answer

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
[Dr. Jitendra Singh]

(a) Act East Policy focuses on strengthening the country's relations with the extended neighbourhood in the Asia − Pacific region. As per information received from the Ministry of External Affairs, the ASEAN-India Plan of Action for the period 2016-20 has been adopted in August, 2015, which identifies concrete initiatives and areas of cooperation along the three pillars of political-security, economic and socio-cultural. Bilateral trade with ASEAN countries is US $ 64 billion in 2015-16 and India's trade with ASEAN countries is almost 10% of India's total trade.

(b) and (c) No specific funds have been allocated to the Ministry of External Affairs under the Act East Policy. However, the Ministry is implementing projects aimed at promoting connectivity with Myanmar and beyond to other ASEAN countries such as the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway and the Kaladan Multi Modal Transit Transport project.